

Claim 1 (twice amended). A [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle, comprising:

a control unit with a control unit memory;

a display and input unit having a changeable operating menu for operating a multimedia system;

at least one individual multimedia unit with an associated individual multimedia unit memory containing a functional scope of said at least one individual multimedia unit [unit] for generating source data in the form of audio data;

an amplifier unit for amplifying the source data;

at least one speaker;

a display unit;

an input unit for operating the sound system]; and

a bus system connected to said control unit, said display and input unit, and said at least one individual multimedia unit, said control unit formed to detect the functional scope of said at least one individual multimedia unit connected to said bus system, to store the detected functional scope in said

control unit memory, and to automatically display an operating menu responsive to a sum of the functional scope of said at least one individual multimedia unit connected to said bus system [assuring transmission among said individual units of the source data and control data for controlling said units;

said units being spaced apart from each other and at least a given one of said units other than said control unit having an associated memory representing a functional scope of said at least one given unit defining a variety of functions of said at least one given unit, said functional scope to be transmitted through said bus system to said control unit, and said transmitted functional scope to be used in said control unit at least partially for forming a functional scope of the entire system].

Claim 2 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said individual multimedia unit memory [assigned to said at least one given unit] is part of said at least one [given] individual multimedia unit.

Claim 3 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, including a computer unit with a computer unit memory, said computer unit spatially separated from said [other units] control unit, said display and input

unit, and said at least one individual multimedia unit,
connected through said bus system to said at least one [given]
individual multimedia unit [and having said memory].

Claim 4 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 3, wherein said associated individual multimedia unit memory [associated with said at least one given unit] is formed to be writable with an altered functional scope [scopes] in said computer unit.

Claim 5 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 3, wherein said bus system has a prepared interface for disconnectably connecting said computer unit.

Claim 6 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said control unit[,] and said display and input unit [and said display unit] are connected to one another for [showing] displaying operating menus required for operating the entire multimedia system on said display and input unit in accordance with [the] a functional scope of the entire multimedia system and for operating the multimedia system with [the aid of said input unit on the basis of] a plurality of displays in said display and input unit.

Claim 8 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim [7] 1, wherein said display and input unit has individual keys allocated to associated operating functions of the multimedia system, and [said display unit] is subdivided into individual segments spatially associated with said individual keys and representing a particular operating function, and said control unit selects a display of the operating function in the various segments on the basis of the functional scope of the entire multimedia system.

Claim 9 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said at least one individual multimedia unit [including corresponding units for generating] generates [multimedia data to be transmitted along with the] audio data.

Claim 10 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim [9] 1, wherein said at least one individual multimedia unit [the other multimedia data are] generates video data.

Claim 11 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim [9] 1, wherein said at least one individual multimedia unit includes a [said corresponding units for generating the multimedia data are] DVD player

[players and corresponding units for displaying the multimedia data].

Claim 12 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim [9] 1, wherein said at least one individual multimedia unit includes [including] a plurality of multimedia units that generate [for generating] at least one of audio and multimedia data.

Claim 13 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said at least one individual multimedia unit generates audio source data, and including [wherein said at least one speaker is] a plurality of speakers, and a plurality of amplifier units for amplifying the audio source data, [are] each of said plurality of amplifier units being spatially associated with and connected to at least one of said plurality of speakers for triggering only said plurality of speakers with specifically amplified audio source data.

Claim 14 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, including a timer for tripping a formation of the functional scope of the entire multimedia system from the functional scope [scopes] of said at least one individual multimedia unit [the individual units,] after a predetermined period of time has elapsed.

Claim 15 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 14, wherein the [said] predetermined period of time for forming the functional scope of the entire multimedia system is adjustable.

Claim 16 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein the formation of the functional scope of the entire multimedia system is trippable from the functional scope [scopes] of said at least one individual multimedia unit [units,] when said at least one individual multimedia unit [of said units] is turned on.

Claim 17 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said display and input unit trips an output of a status of the functional [scopes] scope of at least one of the entire multimedia system[, individual units] and [all of said units,] said at least one individual multimedia unit through said display and input unit.

Claim 18 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said control [operating] unit trips the formation of the functional scope of the entire multimedia system from the functional scope [scopes] of said at least one individual multimedia unit [units].

Claim 19 (amended). The [sound] multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said control unit, said display and input unit, and said at least one individual multimedia unit [units] are disposed in a mobile home.

Claim 20 (twice amended). A [sound] multimedia system for a house or an apartment, comprising:

a control unit with a control unit memory;

a display and input unit having a changeable operating menu for operating a multimedia system;

at least one individual multimedia unit with an associated individual multimedia unit memory containing a functional scope of said at least one individual multimedia unit [unit for generating source data in the form of audio data;

an amplifier unit for amplifying the source data;

at least one speaker;

a display unit;

an input unit for operating the sound system]; and

a bus system connected to said control unit, said display and input unit, and said at least one individual multimedia unit, said control unit formed to detect the functional scope of said at least one individual multimedia unit connected to said bus system, to store the detected functional scope in said control unit memory, and to automatically display an operating menu responsive to a sum of the functional scope of said at least one individual multimedia unit connected to said bus system [assuring transmission among said individual units of the source data and control data for controlling said units;

said units being spaced apart from each other and at least a given one of said units other than said control unit having an associated memory representing a functional scope of said at least one given unit defining a variety of functions of said at least one given unit, said functional scope to be transmitted through said bus system to said control unit, and said transmitted functional scope to be used in said control unit at least partially for forming a functional scope of the entire system].

Claim 21 (twice amended). A method for defining a functional scope of a [sound] multimedia system, which comprises:

providing a control unit that provides control data, at least one individual multimedia unit for generating source data [in the form of audio data], an amplifier unit for amplifying the source data, at least one speaker, [a] display and [unit, an] input unit for operating the [sound] multimedia system, and a bus system assuring transmission between the at least one individual multimedia unit and the control unit [among the individual units of the source data and control data for controlling the units];

providing the control and the at least one individual multimedia units spaced apart from each other and providing the at least [a given] one individual multimedia unit [of the units other than the control unit] with an associated memory representing a unit-specific functional scope of the at least one individual multimedia [given] unit defining a variety of functions of the at least one [given] individual multimedia unit;

transmitting the functional scope through the bus system to the control unit;

using the transmitted functional scope in the control unit at least partially for forming a functional scope of the entire multimedia system;

furnishing the control unit with [its] a unit-specific functional scope from the [memories] memory associated with the at least one individual multimedia unit [units] upon a modification of the multimedia system for generating source data and upon an attendant modification of the functional scope of the multimedia system;

at least partly combining the unit-specific functional [scopes] scope into a new total functional scope of the entire multimedia system; and

subsequently triggering the at least one individual multimedia unit [units] with the control unit in accordance with the total functional scope, and allocating the generated source data to the at least one individual multimedia unit [corresponding units accordingly].

Claim 22 (amended). The method for defining the functional scope of a [sound] multimedia system according to claim 21, which comprises performing the step of modifying the multimedia system by adding a [further] second individual multimedia unit.

Claim 23 (amended). The method for defining the functional scope of a [sound] multimedia system according to claim 21, which comprises supplying data from the control unit to the

display and input unit [and the display unit] in accordance with the total functional scope of the multimedia system[,] for permitting a user of the [sound] multimedia system to individually adjust various parameters of the functions of the entire multimedia system.

Claim 24 (amended). The method for defining the functional scope of a [sound] multimedia system according to claim 23, which comprises selecting the parameters from the group consisting of volume, base, treble, fade [fader], balance and equalize [equalizer].

Claim 25 (amended). The method for defining the functional scope of a [sound] multimedia system according to claim 21, which comprises supplying data from the control unit to the display and input unit [and the display unit] in accordance with the total functional scope of the multimedia system [,] for permitting a user of the [sound] multimedia system to call up individual functions of the at least one individual multimedia unit [units] for generating source data of the multimedia system.

Claim 26 (amended). The method for defining the functional scope of a [sound] multimedia system according to claim 25, which comprises selecting the individual functions to be called up from the group consisting of play, change track,

repeat, fast forward, rewind, change frequency, change frequency band, mute, activate/deactivate traffic radio reports, start station scan, and activate/deactivate RDS functions, through [appropriate] operating menus.

Enter the Following New Claims:

--27. The method for defining the functional scope of a multimedia system according to claim 21, wherein the step of providing at least one individual multimedia unit for generating source data generates source data type selected from a group consisting of audio and video data.

28. The multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said at least one individual multimedia unit is a plurality of individual multimedia units and each of said plurality of individual multimedia units are located in separate housings.

29. The multimedia system for a house or an apartment according to claim 20, wherein said at least one individual multimedia unit is a plurality of individual multimedia units and each of said plurality of individual multimedia units are located in separate housings.

30. The multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said at least one individual multimedia unit

is a plurality of individual multimedia units each formed to automatically transmit the respective functional scope of each of said plurality of individual multimedia units stored in said associated individual multimedia unit memories over said bus system to said control unit and at least temporarily [stored] store the respective functional scope in said control unit memory.

31. The multimedia system for a house or an apartment according to claim 20, wherein said at least one individual multimedia unit is a plurality of individual multimedia units each formed to automatically transmit the respective functional scope of each of said plurality of individual multimedia units stored in said associated individual multimedia unit memories over said bus system to said control unit and at least temporarily [stored] store the respective functional scope in said control unit memory.

32. The multimedia system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said at least one individual multimedia unit is a plurality of individual multimedia units each formed to automatically transmit the respective functional scope of each of said plurality of individual multimedia units stored in said associated individual multimedia unit memories over said bus system to said control unit and continuously [stored]